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OF CANADA

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CHRISTIANITY'S OBLIGATION FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

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(Address delivered at the Annual Meeting of the National Council of Y.M.C.A.'s of Canada, at Hamilton, Feb. 15, 1936).

WE are again debating the almost perennial question of Christianity's relation to social change. Should Christian organizations use their influence to secure social change? Should they attempt to guide the processes of social change while it is taking place? Rather, should they confine themselves to attempting to stimulate religion within individual lives? These are not new questions, but they are given a new importance by the current discussions about them.

One thing is clear, social change is going on; it always has done so; it will not be stopped, no matter what Christianity does. It can be influenced and is being influenced; if the church does not do it, that does not mean that other forces will not. Again, if the church does not attempt to guide or direct social change, this does not mean that social change will not affect the church. It has done it, is doing it. Social change in Russia, for instance, has well-nigh wrecked the church.

Regardless of what Christianity should do at this time, there is no question but that it has, in times past, both attempted to affect social change and accomplished it. The effect it has had upon the status of women, children, and the home; upon the rights of individuals; upon the institutions of slavery, and drink, and democracy—have all been matters of history. Not all that has been claimed has been true, but that powerful influences emanating from Christianity and the ideals taught by Christians have affected social change is too clear to debate.

Another thing which is perfectly clear is that we are living now in a period of great social change. It is one of those plastic periods in which almost terrifying changes take place with tremendous speed. There are those who believe that these changes are simply incidental and that we will soon drop back where we were. There are others, like the editor of the new magazine "Christendom," which is the most pretentious religious magazine launched within recent years, who believe that we have come to the end of a period which has been marked by the dominance of capitalism, nationalism, scientific research, humanism and sectarianism; that all of these elements are waning and we are passing into a new day. Perhaps we are, perhaps we are not; but that we are in the midst of terrific social changes no one can doubt.

Another thing is perfectly clear: that many different forces are attempting to control these changes. Destructive forces, anti-Christian forces, racial forces, nationalistic forces,—forces of every kind, shape and condition, are at work. Such a moment of change offers a great opportunity for the successful power to help control the changes. Such a moment also places a great responsibility upon those who do it or neglect to do it. To have no part in it involves just as deliberate a decision as to responsibility, as to have some part in it.

The church and other Christian organizations are among the most strategically placed, well supported institutions that we have. The church and the Y.M.C.A., for instance, have branches all over the world. They usually can, if they will, have great influence in directing these social changes. They have as their leaders ministers and secretaries, who are carefully hand-picked and, in general, are fairly well trained professionally. The institutions of the Christian religion represent large holdings of property, and constitute altogether a great going concern. But even more important than all its material possessions, the Church professes to be seeking and proclaiming the will of God. In its central idea of God, it claims to have the highest norm which men are capable of appreciating. In the life and teachings of Jesus it sets forth what is conceded to be the finest combination of ideals within one personality

that the world has yet produced. It possesses a Bible as the basis of its teaching. In its Old Testament this Bible sets forth a story of the most comprehensive attempt on the part of religious people to affect social changes by religious ideals, which the world has anywhere on record. It offers in its New Testament no specific program of social idealism; but it does offer many dynamic and powerful ideas which are supposed to be made vital in life, but which, if they touch life at all, cannot but affect social action.

The Christian idea of religion is that by following Jesus Christ we learn to discover and to submit ourselves to the will of God. A person having this experience is then under obligation to go out to show it by the relationship which he sustains with his fellow men. The test of the reality of his individual experience is in the quality of the attitude which he takes toward others. If he has it in himself, and it is real, it will affect his social attitudes. If it does not affect his social attitudes, we normally conclude that it is not real.

It would seem, therefore, in the light of the above, that the question is not, Shall the church affect social change? but, How shall it go at it? It cannot allow others to dictate that change while it does nothing itself. It cannot pretend to know the mind of God and to have the power of God, and yet hold these back from men at the critical moment in history when they are seeking the right way through and at the places where the problems are most tragically important. If we say that religion has to do with individual life, or with life after death, or with salvation, but not with social conditions, we are practically saying that it has nothing to do with life where life is lived; for the most critical and important problems of life are social.

We cannot but conclude, therefore, that what the church needs is not an alternative: not—**either** the individual **or** the social emphasis; it is neither one alone—it is **both.** We all admit the imperative and prior need for an individual experience of God; that unless God comes into individuals He cannot come into society. But we need to recognize just as fully that when God really dwells in a man that man must prove it by bringing all his relations to others into line with God's will. This is imperative, if we are genuinely Christian. Both tasks are to be done, and it would be a tragedy if we were to spend what strength we could muster for accomplishing them, in debating with each other which task was the more important or who was to do what.

Surely we need a united leadership, which will sanely and courageously help the people of the Young Men's Christian Association and other institutions of the Church to think through to an honest but fearless conclusion the real life problems with which they grapple. We must share with others our insights as to what the will of God indicates; we must exercise a steady tension in the direction of the forms of social action and the creating of social conditions in line with the purpose of God. We must do this in all our relationships—those of citizenship and of industry, in the home and out of it. We must help create the public opinion which will help society to do and dare the things that are courageous but necessary.

Though we may hesitate—others do not. While we stand and debate as to what we shall do—others go ahead and take the lead. Youth looks to an organization like the Young Men's Christian Association not to follow but to lead. What is it for, if not for that purpose? Youth has a terrific stake in our finding the right answers today to these questions. If we get the wrong answers, young people are going to pay much more than do we. If we are leaders, as we pretend to be, why is it not our duty to help them think their way to the most constructive but courageous attitudes toward these social problems? A great Christian movement that had no leadership to offer, at the place where life met its greatest difficulties, would be a pathetic institution indeed.

YOUNG MEN'S COUNCILS

Obviously young men and young men's groups should be the backbone and foundation of the Young Men's Christian Association. Recently the necessity of bringing the vitalities of youth groups in the Association and the experience of more mature controlled groups and committees into closer relationship with each other has become apparent. The Ontario Young Men's Council representing a dozen or fifteen young men's groups in local Associations during the past two or three years has done much to develop sympathy and co-operation in the Association in study and activity related to young men's problems of the day.

The movement is spreading. On May 2nd and 3rd representatives of young men's groups of the Ottawa, Kingston, and the Branch Associations in Montreal held a conference, the upshot of which was the appointment of the Provisional Young Men's Council for Eastern Ontario and Quebec.

Where distances will not permit inter-Association Councils such as these, there is every reason to believe that Association Young Men's Councils or Cabinets should be developed with a view to improvement in the selection, conduct, and appraisal of the most useful and effective types of activities with young men in the Association and in the community

"SOMETHING FOR NOTHING"

ONE of the most persistent illusions of mortal mind is the belief in and hope of "something for nothing". There is no magic in the word "free". Santa Claus is the patron saint of all humanity. Pauper and millionaire alike toast their egos in the flattering illusion of importance and smartness in getting "something for nothing". The blood of a thousand generations of horse traders and bazaar buyers is in our veins. Sweepstakes, penny stocks, and bargain sales betray our weakness. In this cold-blooded, hard-headed, scientific world we fall for almost any racket if it has a "free" tag on it. Out of this mentality comes our naive satisfaction in premiums, lucky numbers, free samples, free parking, free air, free service, free radio programs, free propaganda, and free memberships in the Y.M.C.A.

Of course, all this "free" business is nonsense. Nothing worth while, whether of service or of goods can be given away. Everything has to be paid for, and somebody pays for everything. All these alleged gifts are inevitably included in operating costs and are collected from the public in other ways. This "free" business is a racket which undermines legitimate business, distorts values, and encourages the increase of grafters and chisellers.

The particular reference of this article to the Y.M.C.A. is in regard to the increasing sales resistance to membership fees which we meet in a number of our Associations. In our campaigns and general publicity we emphasize our "free memberships for unemployed", "free service to the general public", "free service to underprivileged boys", until the opinion spreads that the Y.M.C.A. is a kind of all-year-round Christmas tree. As our annual canvass for current expenses increases the number of annual subscribers, and as our emphasis on free service is emphasized, there is an increasing tendency on the part of the public to misunderstand the importance of membership fees and the part they play in Y.M.C.A. economy.

This attitude has been accentuated during the depression by our efforts to protect young men who lost their positions or could not get any. It has been our proud boast that no young man or boy has been turned out of the Y.M.C.A. because he had no money. But this sound and praiseworthy policy easily degenerates into an encouragement of parasitism. Many of the same chaps who cannot pay even a modest membership have the cash to patronize movies, hockey matches, beverage rooms, and keep the tobacco industry on a profitable basis. One young fellow was carried with a physical department membership for two years on compassionate grounds during which time he paid $55.00 for a set of lifting weights for his home exercise. When it becomes known that it is easy to get by without paying fees the news spreads and it isn't long until it is known that "only suckers pay."

Another source of difficulty in the membership situation grows out of a loose administrative policy which makes it possible for too many members of the staff to make "concessions" for real or alleged services. It is pleasant to oblige friends, and with an abnormal strain on the paid staff there has been a tendency to depend on "part-time services" and to reward them with "free memberships". The number of these "free" memberships grows and grows and sometimes continues after the service which they represented has dwindled away. Leaders' corps members, office assistants, publicity helpers, membership boosters, basket-ball players, athletic stars, etc., all begin to expect to thumb their way past the gate and fail completely to get the idea that the Y.M.C.A. is founded on the principle of voluntary service. It is a well-known principle that recipients of "free" favors value them accordingly and no lasting or loyal membership has ever been built on this basis.

One cure for this malady is to be found in a **membership audit** which will check all membership lists against cash receipts and review every concession of whatever kind by a responsible committee of the board. Many board members would be astonished by the results of such a survey, and publicity alone would bring a rapid corrective in many cases.

One of the most constructive steps toward the restoration of membership morale will be found in the transfer of control of payments and allowances for part-time or special services from the staff, membership, or program committees to the budget and finance committees. If payment is to be made for services rendered they should be authorized by the budget and checked by the finance committee and charged against the various departments concerned. If these payments are to be taken in membership privileges instead of cash, the membership department should be properly credited with the full amount. This procedure may appear to be a mere bookkeeping adjustment but it will have a profound psychological and financial significance.

This analysis of our membership problem is only partial and the proposals only cover part of the difficulty. The wider sociological, economic, and psychological sources of the difficulty call for a national inquiry and probably for a new national policy to meet the changed conditions of to-day. Local general secretaries and boards of directors might try out these administrative suggestions and see how far they apply to local conditions.

E.M.B.

BOYS' WORK SECRETARIES CONFERENCE

THE annual conference of the Ontario and Quebec Boys' Work Secretaries Association was held from April 3 to 5, 1936, at the Central Y.M.C.A., Toronto. The Executive of the Association, Ken Spencer, Toronto West End Y.M.C.A., Ron Hanagan, Toronto Central Y.M.C.A., Ken Smith, Brantford Y.M.C.A., and Ernest Taylor, Westmount Y.M.C.A., after consultation with a number of secretaries, planned for a conference this year which would concentrate attention for a large part of the time on problems of summer camping. For this section of the conference a planning and promotion committee was organized representative of other organizations. An invitation to participate met with a hearty and widespread response from some two hundred camp directors and leaders. A report of this event will be found in another column.

Thirty-three secretaries were present during the first day and a half to consider more specifically the problems of Y.M.C.A. boys' work secretaries. Associations represented were: Windsor, London, Brantford, St. Catharines, Hamilton, Kitchener, Acton, Guelph, Toronto: Central, Broadview, West End, Midland, Peterborough, Kingston, Ottawa, Montreal, Sherbrooke. Messrs. Bert Howard of Albert College, Belleville, and Robert C. Rae, in charge of Rotary Boys' Club Work at Oshawa, were also present. The program was under the general direction of Ken Spencer. In addition to leadership provided by the secretaries themselves, Prof. Chas. E. Hendry of George Williams College, Chicago, and Professors David Ketchum and Sperrin Chant of the University of Toronto, gave stimulating leadership.

Program Materials:

Harold Cross of the Metropolitan Y.M.C.A., Montreal, led the conference in a consideration of Program Resource Materials. The most striking fact arising out of this discussion was the secretaries' general lack of acquaintance with materials now available. They acted speedily to correct this situation by commissioning Mr. Cross to prepare a reading and reference list with suggestions regarding materials essential for every secretary. This paper will be available very soon.

Another outcome of the discussion was the decision to work co-operatively in the preparation of project papers in which descriptions of successful experiments might be shared with the brotherhood. Plans are now under way for the preparation of the following papers:

Committee Service — Nelson McEwen, Montreal

A Minimum Standard Program
—Frank Hall, Calgary

Boys' and Young Men's Work
—Don McLaren, Kitchener

Ritual and Initiation Ceremonies
—George Ross, Vancouver

Indoor Camps:

A description of the indoor camps conducted each summer by the Montreal Central Y.M.C.A. for boys who are unable to attend out-of-the-city camps was supplemented by reports from various Associations indicating that there is a general and growing tendency on the part of Associations to use their equipment and leadership to meet the needs of boys who are in the city during the summer. The programs of such camps generally include handicrafts, swimming, games, industrial trips, and hikes.

Church Relationships:

Under the leadership of Everett Cameron, Toronto Central Y.M.C.A., the conference surveyed the present activities of the Association in the church co-operative field. A variety of practice was revealed. The most helpful co-operation seems to be rendered when the Association helps in the organization of leadership training courses and in launching joint activities for boys from various churches. While it was agreed that the question of our relationship with the churches is due for fundamental reconsideration in conference with church boys' work leaders, it was also the belief of the Conference that much can be done locally to strengthen our service to the churches, especially along the lines indicated.

Leadership Training:

The report of the conference contains a complete resumé of the very valuable presentations of Professors Chant and Hendry on the subject of leadership training. One practical suggestion, unanimously approved, proposed that serious consideration should be given to the question of resuming Spring Institutes which might be conducted for a period of a week or ten days to provide the "refresher courses" of which most of us stand in conscious need.

The Association in the Community:

Declining to use the phrase "The Association and the Community" with its suggestion that the "Y" could be set off against other parts of the community, Professor Ketchum skilfully led the conference to realize that the Association is an integral part of the community, vitally interested in all there that affects the life of youth.

CANADIAN INSTITUTE ON ECONOMICS AND POLITICS

THE committee preparing this year for the Canadian Institute on Economics and Politics have chosen the timely and most important topic of Our Responsibility for World Peace. Alternatives present themselves to Canadians today, among which choice must soon be taken which will affect the lives and welfare of thousands of our youth and the destiny of our country—

Cooperation with the League of Nations
Return to Pre-League Alliances
North American Neutrality and Isolation
British American Alliance
Pan-American Alliance

For the Canadian Institute this summer competent and outstanding leaders have been secured to present the various viewpoints involved. **Dr. Hans Simons,** former general secretary of the League of Nations Union in Germany, now lecturer at the New School of Social Research in New York, will present the European Viewpoint of the League of Nations; **Rt. Hon. Lord Snell,** chairman of the London County Council will speak on British Empire Foreign Policy; **Dr. Raymond L. Buell** of the Foreign Policy Association, New York, will outline the viewpoint on Neutrality which is rapidly gaining support in the United States. Various aspects of Canada's Foreign Policy will be discussed; **Prof. George W. Brown** of the University of Toronto will lecture on Canadian-United States Relationships; Economic Considerations Affecting Canada's Foreign Policy will be presented by **Prof. Kenneth W. Taylor** of McMaster University; **Prof. A. R. M. Lower** of the University of Manitoba will advocate a Canadian National Foreign Policy; and **Mr. Paul Martin, M.P.** of Windsor, Ont., and a representative from Quebec will indicate the point of view of the French-Canadian population; **Mr. Courtland Elliott** will indicate the stake of Canadian finance in world peace. **Prof. R. A. MacKay** of Dalhousie University will be in general charge of the round table discussions. Other leaders who have been invited to participate are: Hon. W. D. Herridge, Hon. Norman McL. Rogers, Dr. Hartley Thomas of the University of Western Ontario, Dr. John R. Mott, Dr. Maud Royden, Dr. Clayton C. Morrison, editor of the Christian Century, and Mr. W. A. Deacon of the Mail and Empire in Toronto.

The dates of the Institute this year are from Friday evening, July 31, to Friday noon, August 14. It is hoped that many leaders of groups in local Associations interested in this question will plan to be present.

ANNUAL SECRETARIAL CONFERENCE AND CHARACTER EDUCATION SEMINAR

THE Character Education Seminar and the Association Secretaries' Conference at Lake Couchiching this year will be integrated more closely than last year. Instead of a three-day period on Character Education followed by a seven-day Secretaries' Conference there will be a daily tie-up of the two features running concurrently from Friday evening, August 7th to Saturday morning, August 15th. There will be joint daily sessions of both conferences and separate sessions for professional leaders in school and church and in the Y.M.C.A. with combined recreational opportunities.

Interest in the question of religious instruction in our public schools brings to the fore again the important problem as to what effect instruction and teaching have on character. The Y.M.C.A. is committed to an approach to Character Education which accepts the findings of psychological research to the effect that instruction and knowledge have little direct relationship to character and conduct.

The Secretaries' Conference will probably be the most practically useful event ever conducted at our Summer School. Full advantage will be taken of the findings of the North American Employed Officers' Conference of June to be held at Silver Bay, N.Y., where the **Problems of Modern Youth, Best Y.M.C.A. Programme Experiences in Meeting Them,** and **The Philosophy and Skills Involved Therein** are to be most thoroughly examined and studied. Secretarial leaders who have attended the Silver Bay Conference will be present to participate and to guide the discussions.

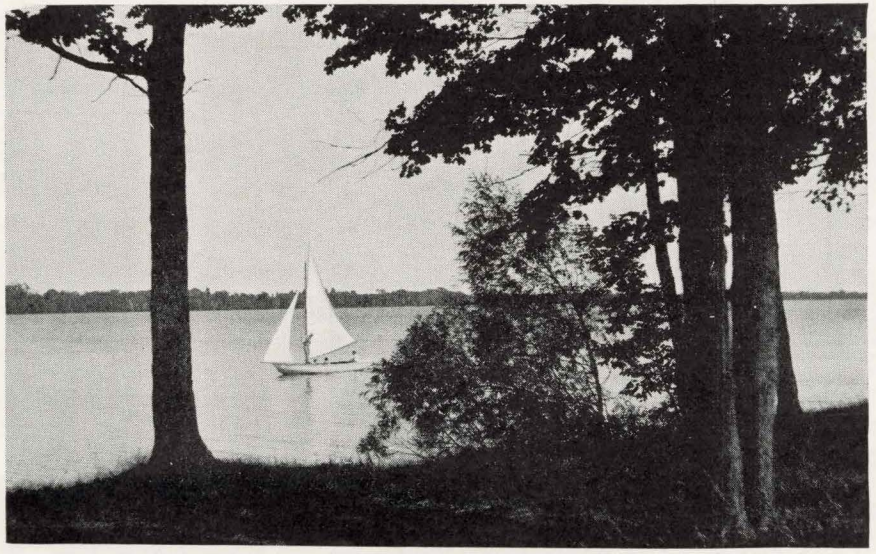
Additional subjects to be discussed will include—Canadian Boys' Work Commission report; Professional problems and issues; Community Relationships and Co-operation; Women's Programme, etc. This combined conference is of course intended for all Y.M.C.A. secretaries, not general secretaries exclusively. All those not planning to attend the Recreation Institute and Physical Directors' Conference later in the month should be sure to set aside this week to add to their professional competency. Even those who go to Silver Bay would add greatly to their educational and spiritual equipment by going also to Lake Couchiching.

COUCHICHING 1936

GENEVA PARK

THE CANADIAN VACATION CENTRE WITH A PROGRAM

Art Courses
Craft Schools
Drama
Institutes on
Character Education
Economics and Politics
Physical Education
Recreation Leadership
Music
Study Groups



Badminton
Tennis
Popular Lectures
Swimming
Social Recreations
Boating
Shore Picnics
Frolics
Excursions
Fishing

CONFERENCES ON

"OUR RESPONSIBILITY FOR WORLD PEACE"

"CHARACTER IN AN AGE OF CONFUSION"

"CREATIVE CULTURE FOR NEW LEISURE"

» » » » LAKE COUCHICHING, ONTARIO, SUMMER SCHEDULE, 1936 « « « «

June 13 to June 26th	Physical Education Camp for Women: Conducted by Miss Helen Bryans.	Aug. 14 to Aug. 21st	Character Education Seminar: "Character in an Age of Confusion."
June 29 to July 31st	Ontario Department of Education: Summer Courses in Physical Training.		YMCA Secretaries' Conference.
July 31 to Aug. 14th	Canadian Institute on Economics and Politics: "Our Responsibility for World Peace."	Aug. 22 to Sept. 5th	Canadian Recreation Institute: "Creative Culture for New Leisure."
			YMCA Physical Directors' Conference.
Aug. 1 to Sept. 5th	Canadian Recreation Institute Schools: Art, Crafts, Drama.	Sept. 9 to Sept. 18th	Student Christian Movement: Central Area Conference.

Also: ONTARIO YOUNG MEN'S COUNCIL CAMP FOR YOUNG PEOPLE, AUGUST 15th to 23rd

Write for Special Pamphlets with Detailed Information

The National Council of YMCAs, 40 College St., Toronto

TWENTY YEARS AGO, during the great expansion period in Association boys' work, and again during the much heralded reconstruction period following the war, great efforts were made by general secretaries and departmental secretaries to improve their professional competence and to enrich their own personal lives culturally. No opportunity was neglected. Even at the price of struggle and sacrifice conferences and summer schools were attended regularly. Personal planning and budgeting and Association policy made provision for these vitally necessary experiences in growth for leadership. And there was fellowship in it that put salt and zest into the determination to be equipped for difficult times.

Demands today are immeasurably more difficult and exacting. Times are more critically uncertain for the Association than ever before. Those who are responsible as employed officers for its guidance must use every opportunity for study both of the transition period in which we find ourselves and of the place and function of the Association in it, or else both they and our movement will go down as derelict junk in the stormy social sea.

College men—even recent graduates—must keep in touch with change and development in any profession, and those who have not had the advantages (or otherwise!) of formal education must hustle like hares to keep up.

DIRECTORS! Send your secretaries to Summer School.

SECRETARIES! Get there somehow, and see that your departmental men and juniors go too. It is a challenge to your competence as executives.

RESOLUTION PASSED BY THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATIONS AT THEIR ANNUAL MEETING IN 1935

"New conditions are making unprecedented demands upon our secretarial leadership, which can only be met if secretaries are given opportunity for study, conferences and training. The retrenchment of recent years, however, has greatly reduced, and in many cases eliminated provision for the small cost which this opportunity involves. Secretaries who in spite of this continued to attend summer school did so in most instances at their own expense, which, with reduced salaries, is an unreasonable burden to expect them to carry."

It was recommended:

That every secretary be given opportunity of attending summer school either at our own Canadian school or elsewhere, at least once in two years.

That a minimum of a week's time, exclusive of holidays, be allowed for this purpose.

That travelling expenses, board and tuition fee be paid by the Association.

THE CANADIAN RECREATION INSTITUTE

FOR those who are interested on their own account, and for those who are voluntary or professional workers with groups or organizations, the Canadian Recreation Institute offers a unique opportunity to study, to enjoy, and to practise the arts of leisure.

The Institute aims to stimulate individual creative self expression; to quicken awareness and appreciation of cultural recreations; to encourage the development of family and group recreations; to demonstrate recreations suitable for organization programs; to coach and train recreation leaders and group workers; to study the philosophy of recreation and its function in social progress.

The dates of the Institute are from August 22nd to September 5th.

"CREATIVE CULTURE FOR NEW LEISURE"

Lecture Discussion Courses

1. Leisure and Recreation in Modern Society

The philosophy of leisure; the place of recreation in society as escape, palliative, compensation, or means to creative living; for individual, family, group, and community; recreation in relation to social change; the values of socially useful hobbies; aesthetic appreciations; creative self expression, etc.

2. Theory of Physical Education

The story of physical education; integration of the physical, intellectual and emotional; physical fitness and emotional stability; health and the education of the whole man; types of physical training; national movements in physical education; play as physical education; physical education and character, etc.

3. Recreation and the Community

Knowing community needs; public responsibility for recreation; the place and function of private agencies; the schools and recreation; the church and recreation; co-operative planning; recreation for youth; the use of special resource agencies; leadership training, urban problems, rural problems, etc.

4. Seminars

In co-operation with the Canadian Physical Directors' Society of the Y.M.C.A. seminars will be conducted on problems related to professional competence in this field. Similar opportunities for the organization of seminars will be afforded group workers, social workers and other special interest groups for the exchange of experience and counsel.

Practise Courses and Activities

5. Social Recreations

For both sexes and all ages suitable for use in churches, groups, homes, organizations and institutions, including party games, singing games, elementary folk dance, traditional table games, etc.

6. Physical Department Administration

7. Archery

The making and care of bows and arrows and equipment; tournament codes and rules; practice at target shooting.

8. Art

Individual instruction and criticism.

9. Crafts

Individual instruction and criticism.

10. Drama

Theory and technique.

11. Music

Community singing, new and old songs for group singing, ensemble music for amateurs, shepherd's pipes, etc.

SCHOOLS OF CREATIVE ARTS AND CRAFTS

The Canadian Recreation Institute also offers more extended courses for beginning and advanced amateurs, and for professionals who wish further coaching, in Art, Crafts and Drama. Students may enrol for whole courses or for weekly periods. Individual instruction and coaching is emphasized.

Courses may be entered by those attending conferences and institutes. There are also classes for residents and their children.

The Schools spread over a five week period, from August 1st to September 5th.

SECURING SUPPORTING SUBSCRIPTIONS

A common question often asked by business men in these days is "How is the Y.M.C.A. getting along financially?" Surprise and gratification is expressed when we say to them that generally speaking we are at least holding our own and in many instances making some headway in relation to the reduction of accumulated current deficits.

Annual campaigns in most cases are yielding each year increasing amounts from subscriptions, and deficits are being pegged and in some instances reduced. The improved results can be attributed to three causes: first, a measure of improvement in business conditions; second, more care and better results in campaign personnel and organization; third, a better program service by the Association related to the modern needs of young people.

In the fall of 1935, seventeen Associations conducted their Annual Campaigns. The following table shows the amounts raised as compared with the preceding year.

	1935	1934
Lethbridge, Alta.	$5,100.	$5,300.
Calgary, Alta.	10,820.	10,730.
Edmonton, Alta.	7,100.	6,350.
Moose Jaw, Sask.	4,700.	4,750.
Saskatoon, Sask.	7,280.	7,183.
Brandon, Man.	2,600.	2,850.
Fort William, Ont.	4,400.	5,200.
Kenora, Ont.	3,100.	3,770.
Sudbury, Ont.	5,600.	None
Guelph, Ont.	6,550.	6,500.
Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.	3,671.	2,931.
St. Thomas, Ont.	2,285.	1,844.
Woodstock, Ont.	2,861.	2,856.
Belleville, Ont.	3,900.	3,825.
Midland, Ont.	2,850.	2,725.
Sherbrooke, Que.	1,218.	1,294.
Halifax, N.S.	16,809.	9,358.

In the above group the most notable gain took place at Halifax where they embarked on a policy of transferring their campaign from spring to fall involving two campaigns in the same year. Careful preparations and good organization yielded most encouraging results.

In the winter and spring of 1936, twenty-one campaigns were conducted as follows:

	Objective	1936	1935
Victoria, B.C.	$8,800.	$6,100.	$5,700.
New Westminster, B.C.	7,500.	7,200.	7,600.
Toronto, Ont.	105,000.	105,146.	98,305.
Windsor, Ont.	23,500.	22,500.	23,650.
London, Ont.	Report not received.		
St. Catharines, Ont.	10,000.	9,600.	10,064.
Hamilton, Ont.	Report not received.		
Galt, Ont.	5,500.	4,700.	3,700.
Stratford, Ont.	3,800.	3,900.	3,300.
Peterborough, Ont.	7,500.	7,674.	7,000.
Kitchener, Ont.	17,000.	17,245.	16,152.
Orillia, Ont.	Report not received.		
Owen Sound, Ont.	Report not received.		
Kingston, Ont.	7,500.	5,500.	5,300.
Ingersoll, Ont.	2,000.	1,830.	1,100.
Niagara Falls, Ont.	Campaign taking place June		
Montreal, Que.	85,000.	91,940.	106,000.
Saint John, N.B.	13,000.	11,800.	9,700.
Fredericton, N.B.	2,300.	2,200.	None
Moncton, N.B.	7,000.	4,600.	3,350.
Charlottetown, P.E.I.	No report received to date.		

In this group there are three new Association projects. At Sudbury in their first campaign the results substantially exceeded the objective and at Ingersoll, where an organization formerly known as the Red Triangle Club has reorganized as a Y.M.C.A. and decided to rent quarters for club rooms, the required objective for the expansion was reached. At Fredericton, where the Association was reorganized after being dormant for a number of years, the objective was also attained. At Saint John, where for the first time a joint campaign was conducted for the Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A., a large increase was obtained. Several other substantial gains will be noticed and in only a few instances were the results below the previous year.

The major factor in adequate community financial support is obviously a varied, well-promoted and well-directed program of activities. Where there exists progressive, vigorous, broad and competent leadership providing a program in all the areas of life confronted by youth to-day, the difficulty of and resistance to securing subscriptions is greatly minimized.

PERSONNEL CHANGES

Transfers:

Stanley Brent from Vancouver, B.C. to London, Ont., as Associate General Secretary, June 15.

J. Gordon Gauld from Associate General Secretary to General Secretary at London, Ont., May 1.

J. Reg. Kelly from Physical Director, Montreal Central, to Physical Director, London, Ont., August 1.

A. M. Kirkpatrick from Boys' Work Secretary, Winnipeg, Man., to General Secretary at Galt, Ont., August 1.

W. Gordon Young from London, Ont., to Montreal Central as Physical Director, August 1.

Resignations:

Wm. A. Lee, from Halifax, N.S., May 1.

Kenneth Spencer, from West End, Toronto, May 1.

A. A. Struthers, from Calgary, May 1.

INSTITUTE FOR CAMP LEADERS

IN preparing for the annual conference of the Ontario and Quebec Boys' Work Secretaries Association, the executive committee felt that attention should be given to the question of improvement of practice in camp work. A rapid survey of opinion among boys' work secretaries as to the pertinence of this topic suggested that a Camp Leaders' Institute might be welcomed by a larger circle of camp people. A planning and promotion committee was therefore organized, representative of various interests. The following gave active co-operation and support: Ed. Archibald, Ernest Chapman, Miss Mildred Collver, Miss Margaret Davison, Miss Mary Edgar, Miss Bessie Hamilton, Cecil H. Irwin, Gordon McKinnon, Ernest Majury, Taylor Statten, George S. Patterson, Miss Eunice Tyhurst, Mrs. Edward Turkington, William Turnbull.

In response to the invitation to attend the Institute, some 200 camp leaders assembled at Toronto Central Y.M.C.A. for Saturday and Sunday, April 4 and 5, 1936. Under the leadership of Prof. Chas. Hendry of George Williams College, Chicago, Dr. W. E. Blatz, University of Toronto, Dr. Harold Edwards, Toronto, and Mr. Taylor Statten, consideration was given to principles of building a program, problems of individual adjustment, training and supervision of leadership, and health and sanitation in camp. For discussion the Institute resolved itself into four groups according to affiliation with long-term boys' camps, long-term girls' camps, short-term boys' camps, and short-term girls' camps. In addition to the main topics Mr. Ernest Majury of the Big Brothers' Movement, Toronto, presented a preliminary report on the study of homesickness, which promises to yield further results of interest. Prof. Hendry also indicated the work that is being done by the American Camping Association on developing standards for camp.

One of the most interesting outcomes of the Institute was the appointment of a committee which was asked to make contact with camp groups not represented at the Institute, to discover the terms of affiliation with the American Camping Association and to make plans for another gathering at which organization of a Canadian Camping Association might be definitely considered. The committee consists of: Mr. Taylor Statten (convenor), Miss M. Donaldson (secretary), Miss Mary Edgar, A. L. Cochrane, Rev. E. R. McLean, Miss E. Law, Miss M. Trotter, Miss E. Tyhurst, Dr. Kenneth Rogers, Miss M. Jamieson, Miss Evelyn Craw, Miss M. Collver, Miss Dorothy Kirkpatrick, W. J. G. Macdiarmid, O. VanWagner, George Ross, G. S. Patterson. It is expected that the organization of such an association will greatly stimulate interest in camping and result in improvement of standards. The Executive of the Boys' Work Secretaries Association are to be commended for fulfilling so conspicuously the role of the Association in initiating projects which meet a community need and which can be taken over by an organization definitely interested in further continuing the project.

CANADIAN YOUTH IN ACTION

FOR more than a year a true cross-section of Canadian youth has been demonstrating the practicability of "impractical idealism." They have shown in a convincing way that brotherhood is more than a sentimental thought—that it is a force far more productive and powerful than war. They have shown that, in spite of religious and political differences, and in spite of differing class conditions and geographical origins, youth problems are common to them all and must be attacked by them all. They believe that unless their petty barriers of differences are changed into friendly bridges of co-operation, disaster must be the outcome.

The Canadian Youth Council has worked this miracle of change. One year ago, representatives of every conceivable youth group made a frontal attack on hide-bound prejudice. At the first Canadian Youth Congress they flung aside differences and unitedly grappled with the grim problems of war, unemployment and inadequate education. Since then, a continuations committee representing forty different youth groups has been amazingly active in carrying out resolutions given them at the Congress. Through their untiring efforts, war has lost much of its prestige in the eyes of young people; new attempts have been made to increase opportunities for employment; and better methods of education have been considered by responsible bodies.

Even as the News Bulletin goes to press, the Council of Canadian Youth moves on! On May 23-24-25, 1936, exactly one year from the date of the first Congress, a second Canadian Youth Congress is being held, this time at Ottawa! This time the representation is wider, discussion lasts longer, and the group is more experienced than last year. For the second time in history, representatives of all Canadian youth meet actually to do something about the bewildering conditions they have inherited.

The Associations, through the National Council, are represented on The Congress Initiating Committee by Mr. Jack Mowat, of Toronto Central. Many local Associations have cooperated in helping to set up local committees and have organized delegations so that the Y.M.C.A. is well represented at this important gathering.

—Cliff Thompson.

THE Y.M.C.A. AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

IN preparation for the World's Conference of the Y.M.C.A., which assembles in India, January, 1937, various regions of the world are engaged in a study of different aspects of the general topic of the Conference, "The Impelling Challenge of the Will of God for Youth". In collaboration with the Associations of the United States, the Y.M.C.A's of Canada were asked to study the question of the Association and International and Interracial Relationships. Leadership in the International phase of the study was assigned to Canada, and a committee under the chairmanship of Prof. Norman MacKenzie of the University of Toronto made preparation for this task. Other members of the committee are: Rev. C. E. Silcox, Toronto; Fred G. Hubbard, Toronto; Prof. Kenneth W. Taylor, Hamilton; Ben M. Cherrington, Denver, Colo.; Frederick V. Fields, New York; Francis S. Harmon, New York; Prof. Heber Harper, New York; Francis P. Miller, Fairfax, Va.; John S. Moore, Dayton, Ohio; Francis B. Sayre, Washington, D.C.

Mr. C. E. Silcox, General Secretary of the Social Service Council of Canada, was secured to give executive direction to the study and with the collaboration of Dr. Ernest Thomas prepared outlines which are now being used by twenty Associations in the United States and ten in Canada. Groups are now working in the following States: Massachusetts (Boston, Worcester, Pittsfield, Springfield), Michigan (Muskegon), Minnesota (St. Paul, Minneapolis), Missouri (St. Louis), New York (Rochester, New York), Ohio (Dayton, Columbus), Virginia (Richmond), California (Oakland), Connecticut (Bridgeport, Waterbury), Illinois (Chicago, Springfield), Indiana (Fort Wayne), and in Canada (Toronto, Montreal, London, Moncton, Halifax, Winnipeg, Ottawa, Peterborough, Kitchener). These centers will report in May to the central committee, whose report will then go forward to Geneva for consideration this summer.

Findings of the various Canadian groups will be further considered by a group meeting at the Canadian Institute on Economics and Politics, Couchiching, from July 31 to August 14. At that time it is expected that Dr. Mott will be present with us.

DAVID THOMSON PASSES

David Thomson, for the past fourteen years Secretary of the Railroad Y.M.C.A. at Grand Rapids, Michigan, died from a heart attack in the hospital in Montreal on February 19th, 1936.

Dave entered Association work as Assistant at Point St. Charles, Montreal, in 1908, and after a year was called to Niagara Falls, afterwards returning to Point St. Charles as General Secretary. From there he went to Kenora, where his work was outstanding. Later he served on the National staff with Mr. J. M. Dudley, and in the military work at the Red Triangle Club in Toronto, following which he accepted a call to the railroad Association in Grand Rapids. His work in the United States was of a very high order, and from time to time he played important parts in connection with the transportation department activities in their triennial conferences and at their Summer Schools and elsewhere. Throughout his entire career he always maintained his active connection with the Sunday School and did a great deal of choir work in the Church to which he belonged.

Mr. A. S. McAlister, who was closely associated with Dave during his Canadian days and afterwards, pays this tribute to his memory:

"I have never known a man who was more genuine or more devoted to his task. His loyalty to the Kingdom and all its interests was unswerving. He possessed unbounded enthusiasm and optimism and wherever he went he scattered sunshine and goodwill. In his case there is no question in my mind but that his works will follow him."

NATIONAL YOUNG MEN'S COMMITTEE

At the Annual Meeting of the National Council in Hamilton in February the organization of a special standing committee on Association Service with Young Men was authorized. This action was taken on the recommendation of the Ontario Young Men's Council.

Increasing awareness by Associations of the importance and the special needs of young men, a recent broadening of the type of program offered young men by local Associations, growing self-consciousness and acceptance of responsibility for initiating and conducting their own activities on the part of young men, together with concern with problems affecting their present and future lives on which they desire help and counsel, and the development of co-operative study and discussion in inter-Association councils and conferences of young men, as well as a growing recognition of the desirability of co-operating with other youth groups in the interests of all, make such a committee necessary.

The committee is now in process of organization. Mr. Joe McCulley, Headmaster of Pickering College, Newmarket, Ontario, has accepted the chairmanship and one meeting has been held of a nucleus group at which questions of function and organization were given preliminary consideration. Suggestions as to how the committee could most usefully help local Associations in their work with young men will be gratefully received. William R. Cook of the staff of the National Council is Secretary of the Committee.

"THE OLD GUARD"

There are in Canada twenty-five former Association Secretaries who have accepted retirement. In the Toronto area are sixteen: Baker, Best, Carpenter, Elliot, Gregg, Kneale, Patton, Shepard, Ward, Yeigh, Burgess, Crocker, Dudley, Hess, Pentland and Sidenius. They are known as "The Old Guard". There are five in Montreal, one in Halifax, and three in Montreal.

The Toronto and Montreal groups are loosely organized and are affiliated with similar groups in the United States. The Toronto group have no permanent officers, keep no minutes of meetings, transact no business, but meet occasionally for fellowship. Sometimes wives are invited to grace the occasion, at other times the men meet by themselves. They are always ready to co-operate with the local Association.

On April 13th, Mr. and Mrs. Moriarity of Halifax, and Mr. and Mrs. Angus Buchanan, representing the Toronto Metropolitan staff, were guests of honor at a luncheon in West End Y.M.C.A. at which seventeen were present. Letters were read from absentees and volunteers agreed to convey greetings to those in other cities in the Dominion. Recently the group were invited to join with the Toronto staff in their monthly conference. They were entertained at luncheon and afterwards at a "Movie" Theatre party.

Since the Retirement Fund became operative eight of "The Old Guard" have passed to their reward. These are always remembered at luncheon gatherings.

AN INVITATION FROM FIELD Y.M.C.A.

The Field Y.M.C.A. has recently completed a renovation program in preparation for the summer tourist traffic. Friends of the Association will find Field, in the very heart of the Canadian Rockies, an excellent place for a mountain vacation. The building, formerly a C.P.R. hotel, is situated in a narrow valley at an altitude of 4000 feet. Visitors are within easy reach of Mount Burgess, Kicking Horse Pass, Emerald Lake, Takakaw Falls, and other scenic beauty spots. Rates are reasonable, ranging from $1.50 to $3.00 per day.

COUCHICHING

When work and play and leisure seem to pall
And cheerful zeal and energy to tire:
When disappointment dims the inner fire,
The guide and motive spirit of us all:
When winter's cold has overcome sweet fall
But not yet clad the landscape drab in white:
When nothing seems quite good and just and right,
And every trifle seems to irk and gall:
Then let our thoughts turn back to that dear lake —
Clear, grey-green waters gleaming through the trees
Dim forest trails and bright-lit halls that ring
With happy voices, the soft gurgling wake
Of canoe-paddles and the westward breeze
At sunset over friendly Couchiching.

T. R. DALE
S.C.M. 1935